

Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to examine claims 2 and 3 of the elected species along with generic claim 1.

In the event that generic claim 1 is found allowable, the Examiner is respectfully requested to rejoin and examine claims 4-25 of the non-elected Species.

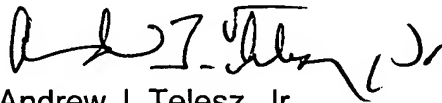
Favorable consideration and early allowance of the present application are earnestly solicited.

In the event that there are any outstanding matters remaining in the present application, please contact Andrew J. Telesz, Jr. (Reg. No. 33,581) at (703) 715-0870 in the Washington, D.C. area, to discuss these matters.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0238 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

VOLENTINE FRANCOS, P.L.L.C.



Andrew J. Telesz, Jr.  
Registration No. 33,581

AJT:dmc

12200 Sunrise Valley Drive, Suite 150  
Reston, Virginia 20191  
Telephone No.: (703) 715-0870  
Facsimile No.: (703) 715-0877